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Report  
of the  
Selectmen  
and  
Superintending School Committee  
of  
NEW-LONDON  
Year Ending March, A.D. 1856

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## SELECTMEN

AND

## SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

## TOWN OF NEW-LONDON

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

MARCH, A. D. 1856

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CONCERNING

STEAM PRINTING WORK

PHENIX

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STRENGTHENING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

TOWN OF NEW LONDON

JANUARY 1, 1881

PRINTED BY

W. H. BROWN



# SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

## DISBURSEMENTS BY THE SELECTMEN.

### *Ministerial Department.*

Paid Micajah Morgan for Baptist society,	\$49,86
“ B. P. Burpee for Universalist “	19,06
“ Samuel Shepard for Christian “	10,48
	<hr/>
	\$79,40

### *School Department.*

Paid Amos Page for District No. 1,	\$74,12
“ B. P. Burpee for “ No. 2,	77,99
“ Curtis Messer for “ No. 3,	153,84
“ Asa Gay for “ No. 4,	92,32
“ Jesse Boker for “ No. 5,	94,23
“ Sam. J. Philbrick “ No. 6,	57,79
“ Geo. W. Sargent “ No. 7,	49,99
“ Nathan Trow, his tax for 1854 and 1855,	4,52
	<hr/>
	\$604,80

### *Town Debts and Expenses.*

Paid Jones, Cogswell & Co. for printing reports,	\$12,50
“ N. H. Asylum, for support of E. K. F. Pingree,	100,96
“ James J. Wheeler, for making one hearse,	115,00
“ William Lee, for fencing burying ground,	20,71
“ John Osgood, for repairing bridge near Hemphill's mills for 1854,	2,00
“ Curtis Messer, abatement of taxes for 1854,	,60
“ Merriam & Merrill, for one mortgage book and alphabet,	2,45
“ Feb. 27. S. M. Whipple, for Doct. Aurilla Sargent,	5,25
“ John Currier, for waymarks on Sunapee lake,	2,00
“ John Currier, for 2 pews in old meeting-house,	,50
“ H. B. Clough, for 1½ “ “	,50
“ James C. Greenwood, for plank for bridge,	5,92
“ Amos B. Currier, for abatement on tax,	2,19

Paid T. S. Worthen, for railing the bridge near Russell's store,	15,25
" Ira Smith, for pump at town farm,	2,00
" Matthew H. Sargent, for 1½ pew in old meeting-house,	,50
" A. Farwell, for one ox-cart,	25,00
" Ephraim Knight, superin. school committee for 1854,	30,00
" Robert Fulton, for services on town farm for 1855,	87,50
" Hiram Davis, for digging graves,	13,25
" John M. Dow, " "	13,25
" Horace Morgan, for the board of widow Messer,	10,00
" care of town house, wood and oil, wicking and chimney for lamp, and repairing door for the same,	8,26
" Asa Gay's bill, for breaking out highway,	2,00
" Benj. E. Burpee, ,75; Seth F. Sargent, 1,00, for district No. 10,	1,75
" Lewis E. Edgley for support of Josiah T. Sanborn and wife,	19,00
" John Edgley, for support of said Sanborn and wife,	6,88
" Pittsfield bill, for medicine, S. P. Sanderson,	8,43
" Northern railroad bill,	2,00
" William W. Proctor, for doctoring Sanborn,	1,00
" S. M. Whipple, " "	33,44
" Robert Lane, for doctoring Aurela Sargent,	10,50
" Jona. R. Addison, for building hearse-house,	91,12
" A. Little, for plank for bridge,	,50
" Richard Sanborn, for survey on town lines,	1,00
" Asa Ray, for board of William Ray twelve weeks,	6,00
" Dexter Everett, for two pews in old meeting-house,	,67
" Moses Adams, for one pew,	,34
" Moses Adams, Jr., for one pew,	,34
" Israel Hunting, for 1½ days work running line and renewing bounds on town farm,	2,00
" Isaac C. Pattee, for collecting taxes for 1854,	40,34
" Isaac C. Pattee, for abatements on taxes for 1854:	
Charles Cushman,	1,44
Everett Haskins,	1,44
George Phillips,	1,44
" Abatement on taxes for 1855:	
Henry R. Gates, for David Everett,	1,10
Daniel Woodward,	1,32
Benjamin F. Messer,	1,32
Nathaniel P. Clough,	2,20
" Abatement on taxes for 1852:	
George W. Haines,	1,42
Ransom Cross,	1,42
Moses P. Everett,	1,42
" County tax,	421,73
" State tax,	211,40
" the town of New London taxes,	10,86



Paid M. E. Sargent, for services as town clerk,	10,00
" Nathaniel Messer, for waymarks on little Sunapee,	2,00
" John Currier, for stone and trouble for Otter pond road,	1,50
" B. P. Burpee, for use of carriage to Pittsfield,	2,00
" Charles A. Fowler, for use of horse	2,00
" Albert Little, for expenses for the same,	5,42
" Albert Little, for enrolling militia and returning the same,	2,00
" Postage and stationery,	2,30
" Teachers' Institute,	15,86
" Osborn French,	5,00
" Robert Fulton, for services for 1854,	184,27
" George W. Gardner, Superintending School Committee,	30,00
" Sutton taxes,	3,06
" due on Collector's bond, 1855,	262,14

### *Selectmen's Bills.*

Paid Albert Little for services :	
April 2. 5 days taking invoice,	\$5,00
6 days making taxes, warrant, &c.,	6,00
10. Journey to Pittsfield on pauper case,	2,00
and expenses for the same,	4,10
28. To 1 day circulating warrants,	1,00
May. To $\frac{1}{2}$ day at Poor farm,	,50
June 11. For the appointment of fence viewers and	
notifying the same,	1,00
12. To journey to Pittsfield, to move Josiah T.	
Sanborn and wife, 3 days,	3,00
August. $\frac{1}{2}$ day to locate hearse house,	,50
To procure hearse,	1,00
Sept. 13. To hiring agent on town farm,	3,00
26. $\frac{1}{2}$ day at town farm,	,50
To notifying and perambulating town lines,	3,00
Dec. 12. Regulating juror box,	,50
Feb. 12. For bounding the several school districts,	3,00
22. To making warrants and check lists,	3,00
1 day at Poor farm,	1,00
5 days settling and making report,	5,00
To keeping town books, receiving money,	
and paying the same,	5,00
	<hr/> \$48,60
Paid Jona. R. Addison for services :	
5 days taking Invoice,	5,00
4 days making taxes,	4,00
1 day moving Aurilla Sargent to Poor farm,	1,00
1 day distributing warrants,	1,00
2 days dividing fences at Poor farm,	2,00

To notifying Springfield and perambulating town line,	1,50
1 day taking inventory at Poor farm,	1,00
1 day settling with Isaac C. Pattee as agent for the sale of ardent spirit,	1,00
1 day settling and preparing report,	1,00
1 day hiring a man on Poor farm,	1,00
	<hr/> \$18,50

Paid Seth F. Sargent for services:	
5 days taking inventory,	5,00
3 days making taxes,	3,00
2 days dividing lines round town farm,	2,00
1 day perambulating town line,	1,00
To regulating Juror box and drawing Jurors,	1,00
1 day at Poor farm,	1,00
1 day settling,	1,00
	<hr/> \$14,00

\$2654 26

*The Selectmen credit the Town of New London for 1856, as follows:*

Received of the Selectmen for 1854,	\$304,01
By list of taxes assessed April last,	1944,42
Literary fund money,	58,37
Railroad tax,	22,70
Isaac Bunker, interest on note,	30,00
Asa Pingree, " "	17,59
Received on Henry R. Gates' bond, 1852,	37,57
" for the use of town house,	16,50
Israel Hunting, interest on note,	1,80
Received on Isaac C. Pattee's bond, 1854,	171,11
" of Oren Bickford for the use of common,	3,00
" Horace Morgan " "	5,00
" Anthony Colby, for the old town house,	100,00
" " " stone under the same,	10,00
" " " interest on the same,	8,80
" from Poor farm, 1855,	95,17

Amount of credit,	\$2826,04
Amount paid out,	2654,26

Balance due the town,	171,78
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Estimate of debts against the town,	\$1378,00
Means of paying the same,	593,72

Amount of debts above the means of paying,	\$784,28
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ALBERT LITTLE,	} Selectmen of New London.
JONA. R. ADDISON,	
SETH F. SARGENT,	



## TOWN FARM.

*Schedule of property on Poor Farm, Feb. 21, 1856.*

15 tons of hay,	\$150,00
2 oxen, 100,00; 4 cows, 125,00,	225,00
4 three-years-old, 105,00; 4 two-years-old, 66,00,	171,00
2 one-year-old, 20; 1 shoat, 14,00; 12 hens, 4,00,	38,00
7 bush. wheat, 17,50; 31 bush. corn, 38,50,	56,00
1 bush. seed corn, 2,00; 3 bush. beans, 7,50,	9,50
2½ bush. rye, 3,12; 1 bush. peas, 1,88,	5,00
1½ bush. barley, 1,50; 80 bush. oats, 40,00,	41,50
155 bush. potatoes, 46,50; 30 bush. turnips, 5,00,	51,50
1¼ bbl. pork, 37,00; 4 bbl. apples, 2,00; 1 bbl. cider, 1,00,	40,00
¼ bbl. flour, 5,00; 20 lb. lard, 2,80,	7,80
20 lb. butter, 4,00; 1 bush. salt, ,67,	4,67
½ bbl. soap, 1,50; 1 bag salt, ,28,	1,78
50 lb. dried apple, 3,00; 2 bush. meal, 2,50,	5,50
880 lights of sash,	26,40
1½ M. hemlock boards, 10,50; 1½ M. shingles, 3,00,	13,50
1 M. pine boards,	18,00
Household furniture, 100,00; wearing apparel, 55,00,	155,00
Farming utensils,	72,00
	\$1092,15

*The Poor Farm is credited for 1855 as follows:*

Received for 1 pair three-years-old steers,	\$75,00
“ 30½ bush. oats, 17,47; 4 bush. rye, 5,33,	22,80
“ 110 lb. butter, 21,45; 38½ lb. cheese, 3,90,	25,35
“ 43 bush. potatoes, 16,80; 1 bush. turnips, ,30,	17,10
“ 13 doz. eggs, 1,94; 49 lb. poultry, 4,90,	6,84
“ 23 prs. feeting, 6,84; ½ bbl. plaster, 1,06;	
1 calf skin, ,65,	8,55
“ 618 lights of sash, 18,74; 29½ lb. veal, 1,47,	20,21
“ 2 bbl. soap, 7,50; 1 cord wood, 2,50,	10,00
“ 28 feet plank, ,54; for hay, 4,30,	4,84
“ 2 cows, 55.00; 1 two-years-old, 15,00,	70,00
“ 1 sheep's pelt, ,75; 1 skirt, ,75; 1½ cords	
bark, 8,25,	9,75
	\$270,44

*The Poor Farm is charged for 1854 as follows:*

Paid for 1 two-years-old,	\$14,00
" 1 hammer, 42; filing saw, 30,	,72
" 2 bed ropes, 50; 2 plates, 11; 1 scythe, 50,	1,11
" 21 lb. saleratus,	1,33
" 18½ gall. molasses,	7,18
" 10 lb. rice,	,73
" 20 yds. sheeting,	2,11
" 45 lb. sugar,	3,74
" 17½ lb. tea,	9,44
" 20½ lb. tobacco,	5,77
" 45 lb. fish,	2,38
" crackers,	,19
" 6 lb. coffee,	,78
" salt,	2,91
" 8 lb. nails, 41; 1 scythe stone, 08,	,49
" gum arabic, 20; sawing shingles, 50,	,70
" 1 ball twine, 09; 1½ bush. barley, 2,25,	2,34
" 1 paper garden seeds, 05; 2¼ days' work, 2,17,	2,22
" 2 pigs, 3,00; tin ware, 28; work at haying 40,21,	43,54
" wheat and grinding, 7,81; making rope, 17,	7,98
" 1 pair shoes, 75; linen thread, 10; carding wool, 17,	1,02
" thrashing grain, 6,48; 1 coffin, 3,50,	9,98
" for use of waggon, 50; 2 lb. roles, 1,00,	1,50
" 1 lb. white lead, 09; 1 gimlet, 06; 1 scythe stone, 08,	,73
" 4 lb. whiting, 12; 1 quart linseed oil, 27,	,39
" ½ lb. ginger, 06; spice, 11; 21 lb. clover seed, 3,15,	3,32
" 1 bush. herdsgrass seed,	4,13
" grinding apples, 40; 5 quarts vinegar, 25,	,65
" 5 days' work plowing, 3,75; 1 pint rum, 10,	3,85
" 1 half bushel measure, 50; 1 pair boots, 3,00,	3,50
" 971 feet pine boards, 18,32; 2 bowls, 30,	18,62
" 1 oz. nutmegs, 10; ½ lb. cinnamon, 25,	,35
" ½ lb. pepper, 08; 2 skeins silk, 06; 1 stick twist, 05,	,19
" 2 files, 27; 1 plate, 04; 2 pairs suspenders, 28,	,50
" 3 yds. tweed, 1,50; 18 lights glass, 54,	2,04
" 1 cod line, 18; 1 pr. ox-bows, 58,	,76
" 1 hoe, 67; matches, 15; 1 account book, 03,	,85
" 4 yds. flannel, 50; lawn, 14; ½ lb. starch, 06,	,70
" 1 spool cotton, 05; 1 spool piping, 03; 1 quart oil, 28,	,36
" ½ lb. ginger, 06; 25 lights glass, 75,	,81
" 5 yds. flannel, 63; 1 lb. raisins, 16,	,79
" ¼ lb. cinnamon, 12; 2 hanks linen thread, 08,	,20
" 1 pr. shoes, 1,00; 2 balls wicking, 12,	1,12
" 1 soap, 06; 1 pr. boots, 2,50,	2,56
" 1 plane iron, 30; 1 quart oil, 25,	,55
" ¼ lb. cassia, 10; 1 bottle Kimball's bitters, 25,	,35



Paid for 1 oz. nutmegs, ,10; 1 pint spirits turpentine, ,10,	,20
" 1 file, ,17; 10 lb. lamb, ,80; 14 lb. mutton, 1,08,	2,05
" 1 bbl. apples, ,83; shoeing oxen, 1,25,	2,08
" 100 brick, ,75; clay, ,12,	,87

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\$175,27

Amount of credit in favor of the town, \$270,44

Amount charged the past year, 175,27

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Balance in favor of Poor farm, \$95,17

All which is respectfully submitted by

ALBERT LITTLE,	} <i>Selectmen</i> <i>of</i> <i>New London.</i>
JONA. R. ADDISON,	
SETH F. SARGENT,	

# REPORT

## OF THE

### SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

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The Superintending School Committee of New London submit the following Report:

#### DISTRICT NO. 1.

The summer school was commenced late in the season, under the instruction of Miss Mary E. Gates. It was soon discontinued on account of the very small number of scholars in attendance. The teacher was doing well what little she had to do.

The winter school was commenced under the instruction of Mr. George Avery. The school appeared as well as any in town when visited by your Committee. Mr. Avery is an accurate and thorough scholar, and he seemed to be doing well by the school. For some reason, however, the greater part of the school left him after having kept a few weeks. No complaint was made to your Committee, nor has he been able to learn any very good reasons why parents should have taken their children out of the school. After having taught four weeks, Mr. Avery left. This was his first school, and we may reasonably expect there would be some things in which he would afterwards improve.

The school was then put under the care of Mr. Joseph E. Putney, a teacher of some experience and good reputation. He was perfectly successful, and the school at its last examination appeared admirably. He kept the term for which he was engaged, and as there was more money, Mr. John Pressey, a former teacher of the school, has been employed, and is now engaged in teaching the school.



## DISTRICT NO. 2.

This school during the summer was under the direction of Miss Diantha A. Abbott. Her school appeared well. She is an energetic teacher. The winter school was kept by Mr. Lyman L. Nichols. Your Committee is satisfied that he labored hard for the welfare of the school. As usual, however, some were dissatisfied with the teacher. The Committee would suggest whether it would not be better to work more *with* the teacher to sustain good order, and find fault *less* about trivial things. In the mind of the Committee, the question is a grave one, whether *any* teacher could keep this school during the winter without trouble from some quarter. Mr. Nichols may have been indiscreet in some things; he, too, was teaching his first school; but it would be vastly better for all concerned to overlook small errors—to listen less to the reports of unruly boys, and visit the school more *personally*, and thus encourage the teacher's heart—to sustain him in all proper methods to maintain order, and thus let children feel that parents and teachers have a common interest in a good, orderly school.

## DISTRICT NO. 3.

The summer school was taught by Miss Lizzie R. Ambrose. She taught a good school. Her former experience in teaching had been considerable, which, with her own accurate scholarship, she brought to bear in securing good order and systematic training in her classes.

The school in the winter was taught by Mr. J. E. Smith. The school was well and thoroughly taught. During the first part, it was quite large, and required a good deal of labor. Mr. Smith was faithful, and preserved good order, which is no small requisite to a good school.

## DISTRICT NO. 4.

The summer school was successfully taught by Miss Susan G. Johnson. She was one of our best teachers.

The winter school was taught by Mr. Ezekiel Dimond. He was inexperienced, this being his first school. He gave very good satisfaction, however, and will doubtless give better as he becomes more accustomed to the work of the teacher.

## DISTRICT NO. 5.

This is one of the largest schools in town, and requires the skill of an experienced teacher. Miss Lorenda M. Addison, the teacher during the summer, labored hard, and did very well. The school,

however, is too hard for any teacher who has had no experience in subduing self-willed and roguish scholars.

The school in the winter was taught by George W. Andrews. He gave good satisfaction. The classes appeared quite well at the examination.

To preserve order in this school requires a straight hand. During the visits of the Committee, both in summer and winter, the school exhibited more disposition to be disorderly than any other school in town.

#### DISTRICT NO. 6.

The summer session was under the care of Miss Sarah E. Philbrick. The school was small, but profitable. The winter session, under the instruction of Mr. John A. Knowles, was certainly one of the best schools, if not *the* best, in town. Mr. Knowles, in his quiet but decisive way, governed the school with perfect ease, and taught it with marked success. In fact, he must be a poor apology for a teacher who could not easily govern so well disposed a class of scholars, and yet not every one would gain the esteem of both scholars and parents so generally as did the teacher the past winter.

#### DISTRICT NO. 7.

Miss Sarah J. Whittier taught the summer school, and Mr. Edwin L. Cheeney the winter. Both did well, and gave general satisfaction. The school is small, and not so far advanced as some, but it contains some good scholars.

## STATISTICS.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.				WINTER SCHOOLS.			
District	No.	Length in weeks.	No. of scholars.	Length in weeks.	No. of scholars.	Whole No. of scholars.	
	1, . . .	3 . . .	3 . . .	14 . . .	16 . . .	16	
"	" 2, . . .	10 . . .	26 . . .	12 . . .	37 . . .	40	
"	" 3, . . .	12 . . .	39 . . .	14 . . .	52 . . .	54	
"	" 4, . . .	9 . . .	22 . . .	9 . . .	28 . . .	36	
"	" 5, . . .	19 . . .	28 . . .	12 . . .	36 . . .	40	
"	" 6, . . .	8 . . .	10 . . .	9 . . .	24 . . .	24	
"	" 7, . . .	8 . . .	14 . . .	8 . . .	16 . . .	21	
Total, . . . . .			142 . . . . .				209 . . . 231



## GENERAL REMARKS.

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Before closing this Report the Committee would beg leave to make a few suggestions relative to the interests of our common schools for the future.

The school houses in some of the districts are bad beyond endurance. In others they are comfortable. It is almost impossible to teach a *first-rate* school in such houses. Those in districts Nos. 1, 6 and 7 are quite tolerable, but all the rest ought to be immediately rebuilt, or enlarged and repaired. Every school room ought to be furnished with substantial and comfortable seats, besides extra seats for recitations, and *ample* black-boards. Besides, a few dollars judiciously laid out in furnishing suitable Maps and simple school apparatus, together with a cheap but valuable school Library for the benefit of scholars out of school hours, would be, many times, more profitable than a whole term of school under an ordinary teacher.

Again, teachers of *experience*, and, as far as possible, of *known success*, should be sought. It is true, every teacher must somewhere teach his first school; but that is no reason why young and inexperienced persons should be employed in schools where both parents and pupils are difficult to please, merely because they can be hired for a few dollars less per month. Two months under a really superior teacher is far better for a child than four under an inferior one. Another evil is the lack of interest on the part of parents in *visiting* the school *themselves*. Many would then see what the teacher has to do and how he is doing it, who are only too apt to give wider currency to the false reports of ungoverned children, or the silly tattling of weak-minded parents. With more attractive and convenient school houses—with experienced, tried and well paid teachers—with scholars who have been taught to render obedience at home, and the same at school—with interested and coöperating parents, what a revolution might be effected in the public schools of New London.

GEORGE W. GARDNER,

*Sup. School Com. of New London.*

NEW LONDON, Feb. 26, 1856.

1. The first part of the

document is a list of

the names of the

persons who have

been appointed to

the various

positions in the

organization.

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2945	1750
593	601
880	780
26805	250
273875	61250
2942	716
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